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REMARKS

Claims 5-7, 13-14, 16, 18-19, 21-30, 33-38, 40-43, 45-47, 49, 51, 53, 58-62, 64-67, 69-70 and 73-78, were cancelled solely for the purpose of reducing the cost of filing fees and without prejudice to future prosecution.

Claims 8, 12, 15 and 17 were amended to eliminate the multiple dependencies in each claim.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP CLAIMS

8. (Amended) An expression vector comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, [2, 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7] operably linked to a promoter.

12. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, [2, 3, or 4,] wherein the polypeptide, or fragment of the polypeptide, has cardiac cell anti-apoptotic activity.

15. (Amended) An isolated polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, [2, 3, or 4,] wherein the polypeptide, or fragment of the polypeptide, is immunogenic.

17. (Amended) An isolated binding polypeptide which binds selectively a polypeptide encoded by an isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 [2, 3, or 4].